



Delta Stewardship Council
A California State Agency

Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee

March 2017

Background

In 2009, California's elected leadership approved a package of bills designed to address statewide issues of water supply reliability and a restored Delta ecosystem. Commonly referred to as the "coequal goals", new policy was set for water management in California. This legislation created the Delta Stewardship Council (Council) and directed the Council to adopt and implement a comprehensive, sustainable management plan to further the coequal goals. That plan was unanimously adopted by the Council in May of 2013.

A primary responsibility of the Council is to help coordinate the activities of hundreds of local, state and federal agencies that have responsibilities directly related to water, ecosystem and the Delta. Pursuant to Water Code Section 85204, the Council "shall establish and oversee a committee of agencies responsible for implementing the Delta Plan. Each agency shall coordinate its actions pursuant to the Delta Plan with the Council and other relevant agencies." This includes fostering engagement, cooperation and coordination with the federal agencies with responsibilities in the Delta and regarding implementation of the Delta Plan. (Water Code Section 85082)

On **December 19, 2013**, the Council formed the **Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee** comprised of 17 state and federal agencies. These agencies have been determined by the Council as vital to successful implementation based on their Lead and Supporting Agency status within the Delta Plan, responsibility for multiple areas of the Plan, and ability to provide leadership, resources, staff and funding for collaborative implementation efforts. This includes specific federal agencies with relevant interests in the Delta (and responsibilities under the Delta Plan) whose participation on the Committee will continue the essential state-federal partnership so critical to lasting success. Each implementing member agency shall be represented by the highest level of authority to formally speak on behalf of the agency at a policy and management level. The Council also adopted a *charge* and *objectives* to the Committee as a framework to guide the member agencies in designing a structure that will best serve their needs within this venue. On **November 17, 2014**, the Committee accepted a *Statement of Purpose*, *Guiding Principles*, and *General Procedure*.

Statement of Purpose

The Delta falls within the jurisdiction of many state, federal and local agencies. The Delta Plan furthers the achievement of the coequal goals, in a manner that protects and enhances the Delta as an evolving place, by integrating these agencies' plans in a single blueprint. **The Committee will strive to facilitate Delta Plan implementation through increased coordination and integration in support of shared national, statewide and local goals for the Delta.**

Delta Stewardship Council

Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee



Committee Charge

The Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee will serve as a forum to discuss, consider and orchestrate the timely and orderly implementation of actions consistent with the policies and recommendations outlined in the Delta Plan and, more specifically, with the annual priorities set by the Council. This effort will further the achievement of the coequal goals in a manner that protects and enhances the Delta as an evolving place.

The DPIIC will interact with and report to the Council on implementing agency task priorities, identifying obstacles to and opportunities for success. The DPIIC Chair shall have discretion to raise any issue related to the Delta Plan for DPIIC discussion and consideration. The DPIIC will undertake efforts to maximize government efficiency, provide leadership and accountability, and highlight where agency alignment will have the greatest positive impact.

Guiding Principles

- **Priority-Focused Discussions:** The Committee will identify and focus on high priority areas for policy discussions of specific Delta challenges in water and ecosystem management, agency coordination and effective multi-plan implementation.
- **Interagency Coordination – Delta Plan/ California Water Action Plan:** The Committee will coordinate interagency involvement with planning, programs, policy and regulation development as it relates to implementation of the Delta Plan and Delta-related portions of the California Water Action Plan.
- **Achievement of Coequal Goals:** Shared priorities will guide Council staff, working closely with member agency staff, to make targeted progress toward achieving the coequal goals. Committee members will inform and direct staff and management within their agencies as necessary to facilitate collaboration and integration and expedite progress.
- **Accountability:** Accountability may be maintained through progress reports to the Committee covering varied aspects of multi-plan implementation and agency involvement in the Delta.
- **Consensus-based Action:** The Committee is not a voting body. Each member will strive to achieve general consensus on Committee priority areas where coordination is critical.

Objectives

- Monitor and assess progress of priority actions and agency activities to implement the Delta Plan;
- Synthesize interagency activities to improve efficiency and effectiveness, assembling work groups as needed to address specific impediments to progress;
- Identify opportunities for integration and leveraging of funding among state and federal agencies;
- Support existing collaborative efforts and interagency agreements that contribute to Delta Plan implementation;
- Assist in the ongoing development and tracking of Delta Plan performance measures;
- Coordinate regulatory actions on significant projects to implement the Delta Plan, as appropriate;
- Identify funding needs and support development of a finance plan to implement the Delta Plan;
- Build effective policy-science interactions between resource decision-makers and scientists;
- Showcase successes where coordination efforts are effective; and
- Prioritize transparency and receipt of public stakeholder input.



Delta Stewardship Council Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee

General Procedure

- The Committee will be chaired by a member of the Council, who will also act as the principal liaison between the Council and the Committee.
- Each DPIIC member agency will be represented by the highest level of authority to formally speak on behalf of the agency at a policy and management level, extending that authority to a designated alternate, if necessary.
- DPIIC member agencies will attend and participate in Committee meetings at a level that supports Committee objectives, allocating staff time and resources where appropriate. Council staff will work with designated agency representatives to execute Committee direction and ensure administrative coordination.
- The Delta Plan states that the Committee will convene twice a year, or more if necessary. Committee members may initiate a meeting of the Committee as needed.
- Committee meetings will be noticed and open to the public. All interested parties and nonmember agencies are strongly encouraged to attend.

Work Groups: The Committee recognizes the many existing interagency work groups and collaborative efforts addressing a range of issues impacting the Delta. In order to improve efficiency and avoid duplication of efforts, the Committee may use and support existing forums, i.e. Collaborative Adaptive Management Team or the Delta Restoration Network, where appropriate, or designate new work groups to address Delta issues demanding interagency collaboration to further the achievement of the coequal goals.

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Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee



Committee Membership (March 2017)

Agency	Member	Alternate
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	Chuck Bonham, Director	Carl Wilcox, Policy Advisor to the Director for the Delta
California Department of Food and Agriculture	Karen Ross, Secretary	Amrith Gunasekara, Science Advisor to the Secretary
California Department of Water Resources	William Croyle, Director	Taryn Ravazzini, Deputy Director, Special Initiatives
California Environmental Protection Agency	Matt Rodriguez, Secretary	Gordon Burns, Undersecretary
California Natural Resources Agency	John Laird, Secretary	Karla Nemeth, Deputy Secretary for Water Policy
Central Valley Flood Protection Board	Bill Edgar, President	Tim Ramirez, Board Member
Delta Protection Commission	Skip Thomson, Chair	Erik Vink, Executive Director
Delta Stewardship Council	Randy Fiorini, Chair	Patrick Johnston, Council Member
Delta Stewardship Council - Delta Science Program	Cliff Dahm, Lead Scientist	Rainer Hoenicke, Deputy Director for Science
National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration - NMFS	Barry Thom, Administrator, Northwest Region	Maria Rea, Assistant Regional Administrator
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy	Campbell Ingram, Executive Officer	Debra Kustic, Assistant Executive Officer
State Water Resources Control Board	Felicia Marcus, Chair	Michael George, Delta Watermaster
US Army Corps of Engineers	Cheree Peterson, Acting Director of Programs, South Pacific Division	Felix Yeung, Program Manager, Strategic Planning and Alignment, Sacramento District
US Bureau of Reclamation	David Murillo, Regional Director, Mid-Pacific Region	Michelle Banonis, Bay-Delta Area Manager - Mid Pacific Region
US Department of the Interior	Vacant	Vacant
US Environmental Protection Agency	Tomas Torres, Director, Water Division, Pacific Southwest Region	Erin Foresman, Environmental Scientist
US Fish and Wildlife Service	Paul Souza, Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region	Dan Castleberry, Assistant Regional Director
US Geological Survey	Mark Sogge, Regional Director, Pacific Region	Mike Chotkowski, Bay-Delta Science Coordinator, Pacific Region